

Pacific Northwest Region Olympic National Forest 1835 Black Lake Blvd. SW Olympia, WA 98512 www.fs.usda.gov/olympic

News Release

Olympic National Forest Proposes Forest Plan Amendment to Allow Aminopyralid Use

Olympia, WA, June 8, 2015 – Olympic National Forest is proposing an amendment to its Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) to allow herbicide aminopyralid to be added to the list of ten herbicides currently approved in the Forest Plan. This amendment would be a minor modification to the invasive plant program. It would not, in itself, approve any projects on the ground. Project-level analysis would be required before aminopyralid could be used.

Aminopyralid (sold under the product name Milestone) has been designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as a Reduced Risk herbicide, meaning that it poses a lower risk to humans and the environment than other alternatives. It is the preferred treatment for invasive plants because it is a selective herbicide that impacts broadleaf plants but not grasses.

"Adding aminopyralid to our list of herbicides would give us another extremely valuable tool to control invasive plants," said Cheryl Bartlett, Forest Botanist and Native Plant Program Coordinator. "It would be a better alternative than what is currently available to us because of a reduced risk to both the applicator and wildlife."

To learn more about aminopyralid, or to comment on this proposal, please visit the project website at: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=46482 For media inquiries, please contact Donna Nemeth at 360-956-2274. For additional information about this proposal, please contact Greg Wahl, Environmental Coordinator, at 360-956-2375.

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The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to State and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. For general information on the Olympic National Forest, visit www.fs.usda.gov/olympic

